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(54) Title: SESQUITERPENOID SYNTHASE GENES AND THEIR USE FOR INFLUENCING BITTERNESS AND RESISTANCE IN PLANTS

(57) Abstract: This invention relates to the use of sesquiterpenoid synthase genes, particularly genes encoding germacrene A synthase, to modulate (i.e. repress, induce or increase) the expression or activity of sesquiterpenoid synthases in plants, so as to directly or indirectly influence taste, the production of sesquiterpene lactones, and/or resistance against insects, nematodes, micro-organisms and vertebrate herbivores in the plant.